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SECRET

AIR

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Chief,
ATTENTION:
Chief, KUBARK

AQUATIC
Leaflet Rockets

REFERENCE:

50X1

1. With regard to Paragraph 4 of reference, KUBARK is undertaking a program to develop a leaflet rocket based upon the following characteristics:

a) Be made of paper, cardboard, and ceramics. No castings whatsoever. A one-shot, expendable unit.

b) Be of minimum weight, ten pounds landed.

c) Have a range in various increments between approximately 500 and 2,500 yards. Will have a range similar to a 60 mm. mortar worked up in the metric system.

d) A solid propellent, spin stabilized, rocket with several small rocket motors, of which some may be detached in order to obtain the shorter ranges.

e) Carry approximately 1.2 pounds of leaflets (500-1,000) leaflets depending on size and weight of paper. To be field loaded.

f) Come complete ready to fire except for leaflet loading. Will fire from an expendable cardboard launching tube. Can be fired by time delay or remote control.

g) Be fairly accurate at the extreme range ± 4% in range, 20 mils in azimuth, and disperse the leaflets at a height of 150 feet ± 30 feet.

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b) Size: Packaged ready to use, it will be approximately 5" in diameter and consist of two 15 inch units which, when fastened together, will be 3½ inches long and ready to fire.

2. The characteristics as outlined above are the selected design goals which now appear to be feasible after completion of a feasibility study. It must be realized that this is an area weapon, as are all rockets, and is designed to land in the general vicinity of the target. The comments of your mission on this would be very much appreciated.

3. If the program moves along as planned, a few acceptable prototypes should be available for field evaluation in approximately 18-24 months. The ultimate objective of this program is to have a leaflet rocket that will conform to the above mentioned goals and can be widely distributed to the field considering its capabilities, at a very low cost. However, as for the present, this office has no rocket to offer for interim use. For instances where range is not needed, the leaflet bomb is now available. This unit was described in the enclosure to [redacted] and in the Manual [redacted] We will endeavor to keep you aware of any major changes in this program and keep you informed of our progress. 50X1 50X1 50X1

4. We are still tracking down the dispatches listed in Paragraph 2 of the reference. Also, the report to be forthcoming, as indicated in Paragraph 6 has not been received. When we have completed our review of all the material available and considered the activity of [redacted] on balloon release mechanisms, we should be able to provide an answer as to the feasibility of a leaflet balloon release mechanism project. Meanwhile, we did want to advise you of our plans with regard to leaflet rockets. 50X1

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Distribution:
3 [redacted] 50X1
3
1-EE
1-RI
1-TSS/SRB
1-[redacted] 50X1
1-Rocket, Leaflet File
1-MD Chrono

TSS/MD [redacted] (18 May 1954) 50X1

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